

Classroom Instruction that Works

Research-Based Strategies that Work, 2nd Edition
Chapter 5 Nonlinguistic Representations

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Intro

- * Information is stored in two ways
 - * words (linguistic)
 - * images (non-linguistic) - mental pictures or physical sensations
 - * smell, taste, touch, kinesthetic, sound

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5 Strategies

- * Creating Graphic Organizers
- * Making Physical Models/Manipulatives
- * Generating Mental Pictures
- * Creating Pictures, Illustrations, and Pictographs
- * Engaging in Kinesthetic Activity

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Why use them?

- * Helps ss construct meaning of relevant content and skills and have a better capacity to recall it later.
- * How? Elaborate on or add to their existing knowledge
- * Ultimate goal for using these strategies is to produce nonlinguistic reps of knowledge in the minds of ss so they are better able to process, organize, and retrieve info from memory.

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Graphic Organizers

- * Descriptive
- * Time Sequence
- * Process/Cause-Effect
- * Episode
- * Generalization/Principle
- * Concept
- * Introduce the GO with familiar content so ss can focus on learning to use the GO without having to worry about new content.

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Physical Models or Manipulatives

- * Helps ss create mental images of relevant knowledge.
- * Make sure ss glean the appropriate info from the experience of creating or using physical models
- * some get so excited "playing" that they ignore the content

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Generate Mental Pictures

- * Provide details that allow ss to incorporate sounds, smells, tastes, and visual details as part of the overall mental picture.

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Pictures, illustrations, and pictographs

- * Provide opps for ss to represent their learning in a personalized manner.
- * Can be helpful when ss are learning new vocab words and terms.
- * Technology provides a way to add animation

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Engage in Kinesthetic Activities

- * When ss move around as part of learning activities, they create more neural networks in their brains and the learning stays longer.

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Today's Learners

- * We are moving beyond a text-based society to one in which all forms of communication have equal value.
- * We need to know how to communicate effectively by writing through visual and audio media for a variety of audiences

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Tips

1. Model through demos and think-alouds
2. Provide opps to practice strategies with familiar info before they are expected to use the strategies with new material.
3. Provide a variety of opps to use nonlinguistic representations as they learn new content
4. Model how ss can use more than one nonlinguistic representation as they learn a new concept or vocab term
5. Provide opportunities to use GOs when developing summaries, taking notes, identifying similarities and differences, generating and testing hypotheses, and organizing info that may be difficult or poorly organized

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